

Over the years, folks would ask for Norm's help in Washington, DC, and eventually he decided to open an office in Washington in the late-1990s. Like his challenging childhood, and his rough introduction to the legal community, Norm faced numerous obstacles in opening a DC office operating out of Denver. But as with everything else he set his mind to, this effort also thrived. Today, Brownstein's DC office has risen from a meager shop of two people in 1997 to being at the top of its field.

In a tribute to Norm's many decades of work and successes, the Smithsonian Institution recently honored him in a permanent exhibit displaying 89 Americans who have had a profound impact on America's politics and policy. His colleagues in this exhibit include a who's who of major American political figures and business leaders including: our former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, the current House Majority Leader ERIC CANTOR, our current U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, the business icon and entrepreneur Steve Case, and the list goes on. It is not easy to be mentioned on a list of the most influential people in our Nation's political discourse when you are not in government. So it makes us proud that such a list would include a homegrown lawyer from Denver.

And through all of his policy and political work, Norm has always remained true to his core—helping Israel and helping the people of Colorado. For example, in our home State, Norm has worked with the U.S. Congress to, among other things: help the University of Colorado build its Health Sciences Center as well as obtain federal funding to research Down Syndrome; help the City of Denver obtain federal funding to build the Denver International Airport; and help National Jewish Health obtain federal funding for life saving respiratory projects.

This next example is instructive of where Norm's heart is—finding opportunities that intersect with good business, good public policy, and good benefits to everyday Americans. A number of years ago, some of our colleagues were talking about changing the laws involving foundations, because they thought there were a lot of abuses there. These were well-intentioned changes, but they would have prevented a particular philanthropist in Colorado from providing full-ride scholarship programs to students who could not otherwise afford to go to college in the State. Norm worked tirelessly on this issue. He educated numerous Members and staffs about the anomalous effect the pending proposals would have. His efforts led to a restructuring of the proposed law that allowed the bank that this philanthropist owned to stay private, and more importantly, stay involved. This bank is now the largest bank in Colorado, and it

houses one of the largest scholarship programs in the United States—and literally thousands of students will get to go to college because of Norm Brownstein's work.

Norm's incredible life story is one that could and should be instructive to us in these partisan times. His talent and work ethic are enormous. His love of the United States and Israel is limitless. And his affection for so many of us here in Congress is 100 percent genuine. And while his passion for politics and public policy is boundless, Norm does not care if you are a Democrat or a Republican. Instead, he just cares about you the person. Partisanship is a dirty word to Norm. We should all take a page from his playbook.

There are many of us here in the Congress who know Norm Brownstein as a friend and we are truly blessed. We hope we have helped you get to know him a little bit better too. Happy birthday to a great Coloradan—and a truly great American.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. William, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:40 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3. An act to approve the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Keystone XL pipeline, and for other purposes.

H.R. 271. An act to clarify that compliance with an emergency order under section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act may not be considered a violation of any Federal, State, or local environmental law or regulation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1949. An act to direct the Secretary of Education to convene the Advisory Committee on Improving Postsecondary Education Data to conduct a study on improvements to postsecondary education transparency at the Federal level.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2 of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715a), and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission: Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia and Mr. DINGELL of Michigan.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 672(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239), and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission: Mr. Dov S. Zakheim of Silver Spring, Maryland, and Mr. Michael R. Higgins of Washington, DC.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 3 of the Protect Our Kids Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-275) the Minority Leader appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission to Eliminate Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities: Robert E. "Bud" Cramer of Huntsville, Alabama.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1949. An act to direct the Secretary of Education to convene the Advisory Committee on Improving Postsecondary Education Data to conduct a study on improvements to postsecondary education transparency at the Federal level; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 3. An act to approve the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Keystone XL pipeline, and for other purposes.

H.R. 271. An act to clarify that compliance with an emergency order under section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act may not be considered a violation of any Federal, State, or local environmental law or regulation, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1628. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Immokalee, FL" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2012-1051)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 6, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1629. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; West Palm Beach, FL" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2012-0922)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 6, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1630. A communication from the Paralegal Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation,